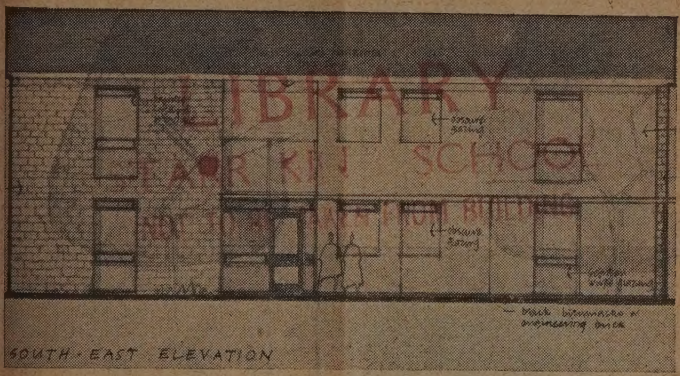
No. 665 Twopence March, 1959

THE UNITARIAN

A MAGAZINE FOR FREE CHRISTIANS



LIBRARY

OUR HOLIDAY HOMES

THE JOB AHEAD

By Eric Wild,

Chairman of the Homes Management Committee

My association with Hucklow, unlike that of many who look back nostalgically to the "good old days," has been only for a quarter of a century. My first visit was in the company of a horde of noisy, irresponsible, young people who descended on Hucklow for the Easter week-end.

There were drawbacks to Hucklow. The camp beds were too short to be comfortable, but week-end sleep was only needed by elderly people in their late twenties and early thirties. I disliked porridge; and bridge with fellow addicts was infinitely preferable to tramping down country lanes in pouring rain. Hucklow was fun, however, because the gang was there.

In the nineteen-thirties I was able to share in the privilege of the young of taking things for granted, but the nineteen-fifties have brought, if not maturity, at least a sense of responsibility and the realisation that there is no special dispensation of providence to ensure the continuity of the Holiday Homes. I and my colleagues on the Homes Management Committee are concerned with the execution of policy laid down by the Northern Sunday School Federation. Our first job is to keep the Homes open, and I believe we must strive for this for precisely the same reasons that we should strive to retain each individual church. They are a heritage from the past; they serve a need, no matter how attenuated, in the present; they have a potentiality.

Financial difficulties threaten closure, and it is essential therefore, on grounds of economy, to effect centralisation as far as possible. To this end we seek to amalgamate the varying trusts and intend to move the siting of the building once exclusively used for children. We need flexibility in guest accommodation. Our second job is to find out what our customers want and to try and meet often conflicting requirements to the best of our ability. I was a customer at Hucklow because Hucklow supplied what I wanted—we hope to discover what you, in the present, want.

The potential of the Homes lies in two parallel directions. One is the increasing use by guests outside our immediate denominational circle, but for that the standard of comfort must be raised. The other lies in increasing use by Unitarians, and for that we need sections of our movement to plan conferences, schools and get-togethers, based on Hucklow—and we want *you* to be comfortable.

The Warden "does his best to make babies comfortable."

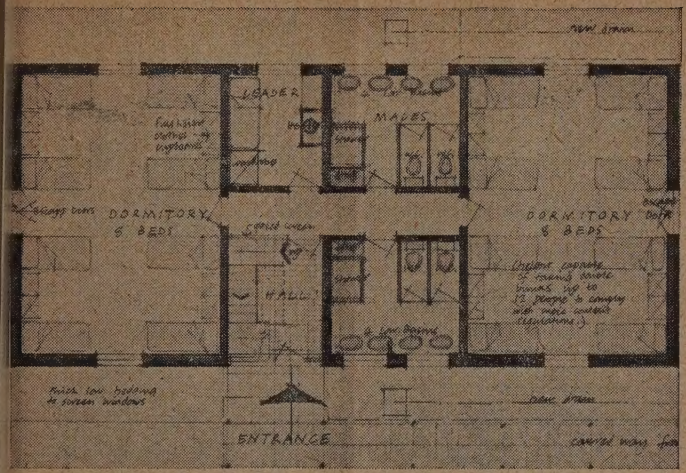
The Homes existed for quite a time before Eric Wild. As far back as 1856 a Home for destitute orphans was talked about; and in 1890 a Home near Colwyn Bay was secured for the summer.

In 1896 Sir Cuthbert Grundy lent a Home at Blackpool, which he gave to the N.S.S.F. in 1913. In 1898, the Rev. Charles Peach took parties of children from Sheffield to Great Hucklow, and the present Children's Holiday Home was built there in 1902. Barleycrofts was leased in 1908 and purchased in 1913.

The Rev. Charles Peach settled at Great Hucklow as Minister and Superintendent of the Homes in 1918, and Florence Nightingale Home was opened in 1931, soon after a new Grundy Home had been built at Blackpool.

The changes since the war necessitated the sale in 1949 of the Grundy Home, and the Children's Holiday Home is now near the end of its life.

Haven't you noticed that when you have thrown something away, even if you haven't used it for years, it has an alarming habit of being needed almost immediately? Don't throw Hucklow away. You may have to subsidise the centre for some years yet; but should we ever have the courage or the finances to start again if there was vital need for what we had discarded?



Ground plan of proposed new building — see the February "Unitarian." The front page shows the architect's elevation.

WHAT HUCKLOW OFFERS

By the Warden, Henry Tittle

If you love the countryside . . . If you want a really restful holiday away from city sights, sounds and smells . . . If you really want to return from a holiday refreshed in body, mind and spirit . . . Then it is time you visited our Holiday Homes at Great Hucklow!

What, you may ask, are the Holiday Homes at Great Hucklow?

There are three Homes, two Adult and the Children's Home, standing in their own grounds. They offer holidays to anyone, no matter what their religious beliefs, even though they are Unitarian owned and managed. There is no party they cannot accommodate, given the opportunity. They cater for single persons, families, Sunday and day schools, and all types of organisations. They cater for day-outings, week-ends—in fact for any period you may require.

As the Warden, my main job is to ensure that you, the visitor, are comfortable during your stay. I can guarantee that you will have a clean, comfortable bed to sleep in and that your food will be plentiful, good and well cooked. I myself am at your service at any time to give whatever help or assistance you may need; this I consider to be the most essential part of my duty, and it gives me very great pleasure whenever I can be of help to my guests. You will find that all the staff and I are eager to be your friends. We find ourselves, as the seasons progress, becoming the personal friends of many who visit us—and that's how we like it! The staff of the Homes are as a family, and we like our guests to become part of the family. Like most families, we like babies, and do our best to make them comfortable. Yes, we are quite used to having nappies hung out on the line.

Great Hucklow is set right in the heart of some of Derbyshire's most beautiful countryside, in the Peak District, with many really wonderful walks starting at the doorsteps of the Homes. If you really need a city handy, then we are within easy reach of Sheffield, and the lovely County Boroughs of Buxton and Chesterfield are just round the corner. All forms of wild plants grow in the fields and hedges, there are many trees and birds, and all the smaller creatures from rabbits downwards can be seen.

Because we believe in the purpose of our Homes and are certain that more and more are going to take advantage of having a country holiday with us here, your committee is making plans for a new dormitory type building within the grounds to give the children a New Deal at Hucklow. The old Children's Home is now past its best, and we feel it is time we progressed. The new building—and believe me, this is no castle in the air—is designed to cater for the needs of both the schoolchild and the young adult. Needless to say, when it is erected, it will have every modern convenience, including showerbaths! I anticipate that when it comes into use, the youngsters will be the envy of many of the adults. I and many others who have brought parties of children to Hucklow in the past know how badly such a new building is needed. It will fill a much-felt want, and at the same time help us of to-day to keep faith with those whose vision in the past made our Unitarian Holiday Homes possible.

Needless to say, I could go on talking for hours about the Homes and the work they strive to do—but space presses. May I just suggest in closing that you pay us a visit? You will be more than welcome; and, after all, without you there is no future for us! You can write direct to me, or telephone Tideswell 218. I'd love to hear from you . . . but better still to meet you!

Northern S.S. Federation UNITARIAN HOLIDAY HOMES

GREAT HUCKLOW, BUXTON
DERBYSHIRE

Book now for 1959 season

No increase in charges. All three Homes will be ready to welcome you. Early booking desirable. Reduced charge for early visitors. Why not book for the long Easter week-end? Write to the secretary.

FAMILY HOLIDAY CONFERENCE AT GREAT HUCKLOW

Some of the most interesting and thought-provoking of British Unitarians are the speakers and leaders at the first Family Holiday Conference to be held at Great Hucklow during the first week in August. An extremely attractive brochure gives all details of a well planned, inexpensive week. Write for one to the Rev. John Gill, Conference Secretary, 32, Garland Road, Crossacres, Wythenshawe, Manchester, or ask your minister about it.

UNITARIANS IN THE NEWS

Miss Anne Harris, formerly secretary of the Leeds Priestley Society, has been appointed Superintendent of the District Nursing Service at Hull.

The Rev. David Doel has graduated Master of Arts of Manchester University while ministering at Blackley and Middleton.

ATIONALISM?

By T. J. Jones

There are two occasions in the ar when I, as a Welshman, be- me all "nationalistic." One is in arch, when all good Welshmen ebrate their Patron Saint; the ner is in August, when the (by w) world-famed, and often itated, Eisteddfod takes place. ving lived for 30 years in Eng- nd, here is when I repeat to my- f the immortal words of Sir alter Scott: "Breathes there a an with soul so dead," etc.

Comes March 1st, and I recall the e of that Saint of the Celtic urch who ran a school and a lege and established a cathedral; o entertained pilgrims from as afield as Jerusalem itself; who eached the gospel with mighty vour, and is reputed to have aled the sick; who, it is said, was rn in a storm, yet had summer all ound him; and who was finally fted up to heaven by angels on arch 1st, in the year 601.

Is it wrong of me to rejoice in the nd of my birth, in the traditions my people, and in the language hich still manages to survive spite all efforts to crush it? There e some of my friends who tell e that it is.

Is it really so? Or are my friends ortsighted? I would claim that I second to none in my advo- cy of a "one-world" policy co-existence and co-operation, pecially since the "world" has come such a "small" world. I plaud Inter-nationalism . . . with hyphen. That is to say, you must ve nationalisms before you can nter-grate" (or integrate) them. ue Patriotism is loyalty, not "to" land, but "through" a land and ople, to the wider Fatherland of e race. The lion must lie down th the lamb (beside him, not in- de him), even though it may be mpting Welsh lamb!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Whip and top

"Mum," said Raymond one day, "can me and Lisbeth play whip and top?"

"May Lisbeth and I play whip and top," replied his mother firmly.

Raymond was interested. "Do *you* want to play as well, Mum?"

"Raymond, don't be stupid. You know very well what I mean. Now, ask properly—please."

Raymond's grin vanished. "Sorry, Mum. Er—may Lisbeth and I play whip and top—please?"

"Right. We'll start from there. It seems such a long time: are whips and tops now back in favour?"

"Yes," admitted Raymond; "some of the others have theirs out."

"Well, I'm sorry, Raymond, but I must say *No*! It's too wet, Neither of you must go out."

"Oh, Mum,—but why?"

"Because of accidents. The things will get wet, you'll have no control over them and there are too many windows about."

"We'll be careful, Mum."

"No, Raymond. If you put the top through a window, we shall have to pay for it; and money isn't *that* plentiful."

Later, a drizzle came down and Mother found Lisbeth in the front room, alone.

"Lisbeth, dear, where's Raymond?" she asked.

"I—don't know," replied the child unhappily.

"I think you do. No, don't worry; just tell me."

"He's—gone out!" and her hands covered her face.

Then somebody ran up the path and the door opened violently. Raymond rushed in and he too buried his face—in a cushion. His Mother waited, then said:

"All right, lad. What's the matter?"

The boy, very upset, told her. He *had* played whip and top the whip *had* clung to the top which *had* gone

in quite the wrong direction—straight through a shop window. Mr. Smith was coming round to see them.

"I see," Mother said, and paused. "Well, it will cost a lot of money, Raymond; money we can't really afford. That's why I asked you not to play. All right, we'll see Mr. Smith. Now go and clean yourself up and next time—please think."

"Yes, Mum, I will," he promised; and slowly went upstairs.

NEWS AND VIEWS

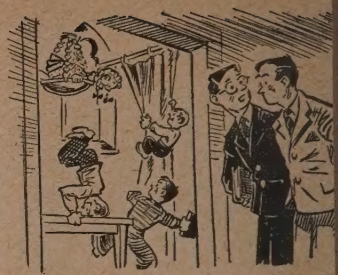
OVERSEAS CHURCHES

SYDNEY held its Annual General Meeting at the end of last year. A number of items came under review: the possibility of obtaining a new organ, the desirability of increasing the number of those subscribing to the envelope offertory scheme, the establishment of a Sustentation Fund for Church maintenance. There were 26 new members in 1958. More than eighty non-members subscribe to the Unitarian Correspondence Church Periodical.

VANCOUVER held three services on Christmas Day and reports a total attendance of about four hundred and fifty. At the 9.30 service the church was "packed to the doors." Weekly meetings of the Comparative Religion Study Group resumed in January with the first in a series of meetings on Hinduism. A "Personality and Religion" Study Group also meets regularly.

HOME CHURCHES

February was an important month for Unitarianism in TODMORDEN. On the first Sunday in the month the address at the first Annual Service of the Men's League was given by the President of the General Assembly, the Rt. Hon. Chuter Ede. Later in the month the Rev. Dudley Richards led a discussion on the subject "Unitarianism: Finished or Beginning?" at a meeting of the newly formed N. E. Lancs.



"The preacher on Youth Sunda emphasised the importance o liberty" . . .

Religious Education and Youtl Council. The Men's League ha formed a study group which i beginning its fortnightly meeting with a study of Unitarianism.

At HEYWOOD the Women's Leagu and Evening Sewing Class looke back upon a year of pleasant weekl meetings at their A.G.M.s. Th Sale of Work last year raised £32

Many activities at LEEDS are pr paring for the General Assembl meetings to be held there in Apri The annual pantomime raised £2 and a choir concert £5 for th Funds. The Yorkshire region of th U.Y.P.L. held a "Fiesta" at Leed on January 30th, also for the Fund and the Women's League is holdin a Sale of Work in March.

HUDDERSFIELD is thinking o warmer days. Meetings in Februar saw films on holidays in Americ and Jugoslavia.

Miss Maude Oliver, of U.N.A spoke at SOUTHPORT in Februar about her work at Refugee Camps

The Knutsford Rotary Club he a special service at KNUTSFORD i February. Mr. H. B. Moore gave th address and the service was co ducted by the Rev. Albert Smith.

ISLINGTON heard the first of series of talks to be given on th policies of the political parties t wards Christian principles. Dr. Er

etcher spoke on "Christian rinciples and Labour Policy."

The Mayor presented the prizes the Sunday School Annual Prize istribution at DUKINFIELD in ebruary.

The Annual Meeting of the anchester District Women's eague was held at GORTON on aturday, February 14th. The serce was conducted by Mrs. C. radshaw, President of the Liverool District.

Mr. Gordon Priestly, of Liverool Council of Social Service, spoke GATEACRE in February on "Some oluntary Social Services."

Except on the first Sunday in the onth the evening service at SWICH lasts only half an hour and followed by discussion. The most teresting discussion recently folwed the Minister's address on Prostitution—Right or Wrong?" ollowing from these discussions n attractively duplicated sheet eaded "Unitarian Challenge" is roduced and circulated.

Good reports are heard of the unior U.Y.P.L. at CHORLEY. At hristmas it visited Church memers and sang carols raising £3 5s. or the United Nations Children's und. The branch has also conduced a Sunday Service.

At an Old People's Service in LDHAM the Chapel seating accomnodation was taxed when almost hree hundred people attended. The Minister, the Rev. Tom Nuttall, is President of the National Pensioners' Association. The Sale of Work realised £365.

Carol singers at MOSSLEY raised over £21 with ten hours singing at Christmas.

Proceeds from the Christmas Market at CROSS STREET Chapel totalled £168. All is set for the President of the General Assembly to open the New Building on March 21st. Accommodation is limited to about three hundred and so has to be by ticket only. Churches in the vicinity will receive tickets for representatives. Services are now being held in the new Lecture Hall.

Helpers at ALTRINCHAM have redecorated the side rooms of the large schoolroom. Two memorial stones are being secured to the West Hall as the first stone will shortly be completely full.

The Unitarian PEACE FELLOWSHIP has its usual Lent Appeal in aid of the Save the Children Fund. All congregations are asked to support

The Glentoran Supporters' Club held a Sportman's Service at

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THE LINDSEY PRESS

THE BELIEFS OF A UNITARIAN
By Alfred Hall, M.A., D.D.
2s., by post 2s. 6d.

THE STORY OF UNITARIANISM
By Raymond V. Holt, B.Litt., M.A.
6d., by post 8d.

WHAT UNITARIANS BELIEVE
By Dorothy Tarrant, M.A., Ph.D.
6d., by post 8d.

"I'M NOT RELIGIOUS BUT—"
By Arthur Peacock
6d., by post 8d.

The Lindsey Press, Essex Hall, 1—6, Essex Street, London, W.C.2.

MOUNTPOTTINGER, Ireland, in January. The preacher was Dr. J. W. Kyle, the great Irish Rugby stand-off half.

One hundred and forty members of the Northern Ireland Cycling Federation attended the Annual Cyclists' Church Service, at ALL SOULS' CHURCH, Belfast.

SWINTON now has new flooring in the Schoolroom and large classroom. Several events in February centred on the £1,000 Renovation Fund: a Concert, Bring and Buy Sale, and the Minister's "Pennies Round the Church" Effort. The reprint from the "Sunday Express" is enclosed in all March Calendars.

The "hut" formerly at Cross Street has been rebuilt "better than ever" at URMSTON and was opened in February by the President of the Manchester District Association, the Rev. T. Nuttall.

On January 18th, donations towards the £10,000 Central Hall Rebuilding Fund at BELFAST First Presbyterian Church totalled £7,975. Hearing aids, the gifts of an anonymous donor, have now been installed in twelve pews.

KIDDERMINSTER'S Christmas Fair raised £138. A Badland Memorial Appeal is in progress.

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The National Union of Unitarian and Free Christian Lay Preachers

THE EASTER SCHOOL

will be held at

MANCHESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD

Thursday evening, March 26th, to Tuesday noon, March 31st

LECTURES FELLOWSHIP DISCUSSION

Terms: £5 10s. 0d. whole period, or £1 2s. 0d. per day/night (full board—inclusive). No charge for Lectures only.

Bookings for whole or any part period welcome.

Programme and details from: P. J. Spencer, 114, Beeches Road, West Bromwich, Staffs.

NOTICE: The Annual General Meeting of the National Union will be held at Manchester College, Oxford, on Saturday, March 28th, 1959, at 2.30 p.m.

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